

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-11 (canceled).

Claim 12 (currently amended): A line converter comprising:
a three-dimensional waveguide arranged to propagate an electromagnetic wave in a three-dimensional space;
a dielectric substrate; and
a plane circuit having a conductor pattern disposed on said dielectric substrate; wherein

the dielectric substrate is arranged to be substantially parallel to an E plane-~~E~~ of the three-dimensional waveguide and at an approximately central portion of the three-dimensional waveguide and the conductor pattern of the dielectric substrate includes a conductor portion defining a shield area of the three-dimensional waveguide, a coupling-line portion that is electromagnetically coupled to a standing wave that occurs in the shield area, and a transmission-line portion extending from the coupling-line portion.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The line converter according to Claim 12, wherein the conductor portion includes ground conductors disposed on two surfaces of the dielectric substrate.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The line converter according to Claim 13, further comprising a plurality of conduction paths that penetrates the dielectric substrate and that is aligned on at least one of two sides of the transmission-line portion, so as to be

spaced away from the transmission line by as much as a predetermined distance, so that conduction is established between the ground conductors disposed on said two surfaces of the dielectric substrate.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The line converter according to Claim 12, wherein a conductor of the three-dimensional waveguide is divided into two portions including an upper portion and a lower portion by a plane that is substantially parallel to the E-plane-E and a space is provided in the conductor of the three-dimensional waveguide so as to create a choke defined by the space, where the space is provided at a position that is spaced away from the three-dimensional waveguide by as much as a predetermined distance, so as to be substantially parallel to an electromagnetic-wave propagation direction of the three-dimensional waveguide.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The line converter according to Claim 12, wherein the transmission-line part-portion includes a micro-strip line including ~~the a~~ ground conductor disposed on one of the surfaces of the dielectric substrate and a line conductor disposed on the surface opposed thereto and on which the coupling-line portion is disposed to define a suspended line including the line conductor disposed on one of the surfaces of the dielectric substrate and the conductor of the three-dimensional waveguide.

Claim 17 (previously presented): A high-frequency module comprising the line converter according to Claim 12 and a high-frequency circuit connected to each of the plane circuit and the three-dimensional waveguide of the line converter.

Claim 18 (previously presented): A high-frequency module comprising the line converter according to Claim 15 and a high-frequency circuit connected to each of the plane circuit and the three-dimensional waveguide of the line converter.

Claim 19 (previously presented): A high-frequency module comprising the line converter according to Claim 16 and a high-frequency circuit connected to each of the plane circuit and the three-dimensional waveguide of the line converter.

Claim 20 (previously presented): A communication device comprising the high-frequency module according to Claim 17 provided in a unit for transmitting and receiving an electromagnetic wave.

Claim 21 (previously presented): A communication device comprising the high-frequency module according to Claim 18 provided in a unit for transmitting and receiving an electromagnetic wave.

Claim 22 (previously presented): A communication device comprising the high-frequency module according to Claim 19 provided in a unit for transmitting and receiving an electromagnetic wave.